

FISHING LEADER HOLDER AND METHOD

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to fishing leader holders, more specifically, a fishing leader holder that allows a user to carry leaders of various lengths without the threat
5 of the leaders becoming bent or being caught on other objects.

Fishing has been a long-time favorite outdoor activity for many. The calming water, the peace and quiet and simplistic nature of the sport entice all people, from young and old to novice and professionals, to get outside and go fishing. As in most sports, having the proper equipment is a key factor in obtaining the desired results.

10 In the sport of fishing, equipment at its most basic form includes a fishing pole, fishing line, a hook and bait. However, to achieve better results, fishing leaders are commonly used to separate the fishing line from the hook and bait to enable precise and gentle fly set-up on the water when casting.

However, one leader may not be adequate for all types of fishing conditions.
15 As such, leaders are made in differing lengths, with some as small as three inches in length to some as large as at least nine feet in length, and of differing materials, single wire or multi-wire, for example, in order to accommodate various fishing and weather conditions, fish types and individualized fishing techniques. Therefore, these various

types of leaders need to be readily available to the fisherman or fisherwoman in order for him or her to adjust to the varying fishing and weather conditions.

Currently, there are several ways in which a fisherperson may carry the various sized leaders. For example, he or she may carry the leaders in a tackle box. However, 5 this method allows for easy tangling of the leaders. In the alternative, the fisherperson may carry the various sized leaders in devices known as leader holders. However, current leader holders are deficient in that they either require the leaders to be wrapped around the holder, thus causing the leaders to bend, or are attached to a holder so the leaders are exposed to the environment, thereby allowing the leaders to be caught on 10 other objects. Additionally, it is difficult to access the leaders from current leader holders.

Also, many fisherpeople prefer to attach the leader to the hook prior to engaging in the sport of fishing as it is difficult to tie the proper leader knot when his or her hands are wet. Thus, many times fisherpeople become injured by hooks when, trying 15 to obtain a single leader from the tackle box or current fishing leader holders, they become hooked on the hook attached to the leader.

Thus, the need exists for a fishing leader holder exists wherein the leaders do not become entangled, are held internally within a device and are easily and safely accessible to the fisherperson.

The relevant prior art includes the following patents:

<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
(U.S. unless stated otherwise)		
3,713,244	Alotta	01-30-1973
5 4,977,700	Perlman <i>et al.</i>	12-18-1990
4,437,258	Allard	03-20-1984
2,225,309	Lawrence	12-17-1940
2,667,010	Anderson	01-26-1954
2,670,563	Anderson	03-02-1954
10 5,337,511	Ashbaugh	08-16-1994
5,440,829	Parvin	08-15-1995
4,961,281	Listebarger, Jr.	10-09-1990
2,448,160	Behr	11-15-1949

Although the above patents teach various types of fishing leader holders, none
15 teach a cylindrically-shaped fishing leader holder having both a corked end and a
fringed end wherein windows are cut into the holder for the acceptance of the leader
so the leader is stored within the holder, thereby protecting the leader and enabling a
user to retrieve a leader without opening the device.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

20 The primary object of the present invention is to provide a fishing leader holder
that can hold fishing leaders of various lengths and widths.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a fishing leader holder
that prevents the leaders from becoming bent.

An even further object of the present invention is to provide a fishing leader holder that allows a user to obtain a threaded leader safely.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a fishing leader holder that protects the leaders by keeping the leaders within the holder.

5 An even further object of the present invention is to provide a fishing leader holder that accommodates various sized hooks.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a fishing leader holder that is easy to use and easy to carry.

10 An even further object of the present invention is to provide a fishing leader holder that is lightweight.

The present invention fulfills the above and other objects by providing a fishing leader holder comprised of a holder having two ends that receive fishing hooks. The holder, preferably made of PVC pipe, is cylindrically-shaped, has cut out windows and is hollow. The holder has two ends, a first frayed end and a second
15 corked end. Optional holes may be included on the holder, as well as an optional cap, preferably made of a plastic material so as to resist corrosion. In addition, the holder may be attached to a boat by using a clip and/or line.

There are various methods in which to use the present invention. A first use is whereby the user hangs the hook, which has a leader attached thereto, on the

frayed end of the holder. First, the user feeds the leader through a cut out window on the holder. Once the leader is located within the holder, the user places the hook into one of the slots on the frayed end of the holder and hangs the hook therefrom. The user may then place the removable cap on the frayed end so as to keep the hooks
5 and leaders from falling out. To access the hook and leader, the user simply removes the cap and lifts the hook off the frayed end.

A second use is whereby the user inserts the hook and attached leader into the corked end of the holder. The user inserts the leader into a cut out window in the holder. Then, the user simply presses the hook into the cork so it will not become
10 dislodged. To access the hook and leader, the user simply pulls the hook from the cork.

A third use is whereby the user inserts the hook and attached leader into one of the holes cut into the holder. The user first inserts the leader into the holder by feeding it through a cut out window. After the leader is inserted, the user hooks the
15 hook onto a cut out hole on the holder. To access the leader, the user simply removes the hook from the hole.

Although the present invention is described and shown as a holder having a frayed end and a corked end, the invention could also include having a holder that has two frayed ends or two corked ends. In addition, a user may find it easier to

first secure the hook onto the holder and then feed the leader through the cut out window, rather than feeding the leader and then securing the hook, as described above. Additionally, although leaders attached to hooks are described, the present invention is also capable of holding leaders attached to clips wherein the clips are
5 securable onto the holder.

The above and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention should become even more readily apparent to those skilled in the art upon a reading of the following detailed description in conjunction with the drawings wherein there is shown and described illustrative embodiments of the invention.

10 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the following detailed description, reference will be made to the attached drawings in which:

- FIG. 1** is a side view of the fishing leader holder of the present invention;
- FIG. 2** is a partial side view of the frayed end of the present invention in use;
- 15 **FIG. 3** is a side view of the embodiment of **FIG. 2** with an optional cap;
- FIG. 4** is a partial side view of a corked end of the present invention in use; and
- FIG. 5** is a top view of the corked end of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

For purposes of describing the preferred embodiment, the terminology used in reference to the numbered components in the drawings is as follows:

5	1.	holder	6.	hole
	2.	frayed end	7.	cork
	3.	corked end	8.	hook
	4.	slot	9.	leader
	5.	window	10.	cap

With reference to **FIG. 1**, a side view of the present invention is shown. The fishing leader holder has a holder **1**, preferably made of PVC pipe, that is hollow and has two ends which can readily accommodate fishing hooks. The holder **1** has a first frayed end **2** with slots **4** and a second corked end **3**. Windows **5** and holes **6** are cut out of the holder **1**.

In **FIG. 2**, a side view of the frayed end **2** of the present invention in use is shown. The slots **4** on the frayed end **2** are capable of holding fishing hooks **8** on the holder **1**. Leaders **9**, which are attached to the fishing hooks **8**, are then fed into the holder **1** via the cut out windows **5**. Additionally, the fishing hooks **8** can be secured to the holder **1** by using the cut out holes **6** on the holder **1** wherein the leaders **9** are also fed into the holder **1** via the cut out windows **5**. Because the leaders **9** are now located within the holder **1** and are thus not exposed to the external environment, they are not susceptible to becoming soiled, bent or becoming caught on other objects.

In **FIG. 3**, a side view of the embodiment of **FIG. 2** is shown with a cap **10**. The optional cap **10** may be placed upon the frayed end **2** of the holder **1** so as to prevent the hooks **8** from falling out of the slots **4**.

With reference to **FIG. 4**, a side view of the corked end **3** of the holder **1** is shown. Fishing hooks **8** are pressed into the cork **7** so as to hold the fishing hooks **8** securely in place.

Finally, **FIG. 5** shows a top view of the corked end **3** of the present invention.

5 The cork **7** is surrounded by the holder **1** so as to keep the cork **7** secure.

The use of the present invention will allow fishermen and fisherwomen to carry hooked fishing leaders of various lengths and sizes easily without the threat of having the leaders becoming entangled or becoming caught on external objects.

10 It is to be understood that while a certain form of the invention is illustrated, it is not to be limited to the specific form or arrangement of parts herein described and shown. It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made without departing from the scope of the invention and the invention is not be considered limited to what is shown and described in the specification and drawings.